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The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, DEC. 15, 1883.

☞ *Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.*

The Boston city election, which took place on Tuesday last, and was attended with unusual excitement, resulted in the popular choice of Gen. Augustus P. Martin over Alderman Hugh O'Brien, and a list of Aldermen and Councilmen that prevailingly represents the citizens ticket. This annual election involves the expenditure by the city government of not less than ten millions of dollars.

Five Gloucester fishing boats are known to be lost in the late gales, and the loss of four more is confidently reported.

It was a pretty good business for the House of Representatives on its first regular bill day, to receive no less that 824 bills.

Senator Edmunds evidently does not like his position as presiding officer of the Senate, and therefore sent in his resignation of the chair.

The English poet, Alfred Tennyson, has at length been made a baron, but he will not write a line of finer poetry, in consequence.

The ocean steamer Durham, from Boston, Dec. 5th, for London, put into Halifax with both water condensers for cattle broken down.

It was Grand Army day, on Wednesday, at the Foreign Exhibition in Boston, and all comrades in uniform or wearing the Grand Army badge were admitted free.

The safe burglary in the jewelry store of Bacon and Co., Brattle Square, in this city, was one of the boldest and most successful affairs of the kind that has been attempted in some time.

A series of complimentary dinners is being given to Governor-elect Robinson by his fellow Congressmen, prior to his taking leave to come on and be inaugurated Governor of Massachusetts.

In the Alabama Claims Court it has been decided that a citizen of the United States who paid premiums for war risks during the Rebellion on goods shipped in neutral vessels could recover therefor in that court.

A most worthy charity, and one that appeals directly to the sympathies of all people, is the Fair just opened in Horticultural Hall, in this city, in aid of the proposed Home for Aged Couples. It ought to be universally sustained.

A mass meeting has been held in Chicago at which an unanimous request was made of the Government that it will interpose its influence to the stay of the execution of sentence, on Monday next, on O'Donnell, the slayer of the Irish informer Carey.

A cable despatch has been sent by the State Department to Minister Lowell of London, requesting him to ask for a stay of sentence in the case of O'Donnell, who is sentenced to be executed next Monday for the murder of Carey, the Irish informer.

The French Chamber of Deputies has thoroughly discussed the Tonquin question in connection with that of granting credits for carrying on the war in China, and a vote has finally been taken which resulted in a declaration of confidence in the Government's policy.

Hicks Pasha is reported to have been found dead, after the fatal fight of his force with the Egyptian rebels, with one hand grasping his sword and the other his revolver. When his forces were overwhelmed they had not another cartridge to fire, even in desperate defense.

It is currently believed that the Springs between the Red Sea ports and the Nile are held by the Egyptian rebels under the False Prophet, so called, and that any attempt to send an Egyptian force up the Nile to Khartoum would at once uncover his location and his numerical strength.

STEALING THE PUBLIC LANDS.

It is asserted that a plot was discovered not long ago in California to steal from the Government over a million dollars' worth of its valuable timber lands, situated in the northern part of that State. These lands are styled redwood lands. In Utah, astounding frauds in the same line have lately been uncovered. Perjury is reported to be the common practice in the land office, and by means of it large tracts are patented in defiance of the laws. This has been done under cover of the Desert Land Entry act. It is stated that wealthy stock-raisers have fenced off tens of thousands of Government acres from actual settlers. In Colorado, we are told, nearly ten thousand adjoining acres, rich in iron and coal, have been fraudulently preempted as agricultural land, and conveyed to some sixty fictitious grantees and through them to what is now a rich iron and coal company. Of course Government officials must have been a party to so stupendous a fraud. Such flagrant proceedings Congress is called upon to put an end to without any further delay. Millions upon millions of acres of valuable public lands have been stolen through perjury, and individuals and rings have become the rich monopolists. Actual settlers are defrauded, and agriculture receives a damaging blow.

FORESTS AND RIVERS.

The discussion that has arisen of late in regard to the preservation of forests is one that of course includes the flow of all our streams, big and little; and it is a fact that too much cannot be said on a subject that involves the continued fertility of our soil and the continued prosperity also. On all sides is to be heard the opinion that the streams are in no sense what they formerly were. They are charged with diminishing currents and changed courses. Their habits, too, are not what they once were. If they are surcharged by a heavy rainfall, instead of holding back their currents for an even distribution they rush them all out at once and yield only devastating inundations. And almost immediately after they are wholly dry of water, their bare track being all that marks the course of their wandering flow. Such intermittent supplies of water through the interior of a populated land is very far from being the reliance on which it must draw for the commonest purpose of agriculture.

Scarcely more than the bare statement itself would seem to be necessary to arouse a large population like ours to the imminence of the peril that besets their entire prosperity. We are warned by the recent changes in all our rivers that we have been consuming our principal when we should have lived on our interest only. We are made aware of the fact that we cannot have rivers without forests, and that we cannot begin too soon or too seriously to preserve the latter from further destruction. Especially are facts now called for, in view of the significance that attaches to the changing habits of our streams. Theories can only be matured and established upon ascertained facts. A thorough collection and collation of the latter are of more service now than any number of vague alarms, and they are sure to create a profounder impression. Hence it would be well for the dwellers on even our smaller streams to put on record all they have observed and all they know in respect to them, that the actual effect of forest denudation may first be ascertained and then duly impressed.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

The correspondents are busy in the Washington field, gleaning all the items of news, gossip, incident, and portraiture that are to be picked up in so busy a place as the national Capitol. The staple of their stories is a strange mixture of the real and the unreal, but the standing rule with them is to make it readable. Dull communications are not to be tolerated. To the habitual readers of the newspapers the Washington feature is a welcome relief; for it is by no means all politics that comes from there, but bright sayings, odd combinations, queer occurrence, flying rumors, light gossip about men who are esteemed magnates, and satire, speculation, assertions, corrections, and almost all things else, thoroughly mixed and jumbled together. For instance; when the election of the new Speaker occurred, we are told that no man in the whole House was as cool and composed as Mr. Randall himself, the defeated candidate. Mr. Cox, the third candidate of the victorious party, never seemed more happy than after being relieved of the wear and tear of his unsuccessful canvass. Mr. Carlisle, the Speaker elect, might have been obliged to request his friends to send no more flowers.

The House of Representatives is considered the ranking body in Congress. This position is fixed by the fact that with it originates all the money bills, and that the Speaker is a vastly more important person than the President of the Senate. At the time of the recent opening of Congress, both chambers looked resplendent with new carpets, new varnish, polished chandeliers, and freshened walls and cornices. The flowers began to pour in all and every variety of ingenious design. Nearly every other desk was decorated with gigantic bouquets. When Mr. Randall's vote was called for Speaker, he responded in a loud clear voice, "John G. Carlisle," although the other members who voted for him answered "Carlisle" merely. Mr. Randall and Mr. Keifer, the leading defeated candidates of the opposite parties, were appointed to go and conduct Mr. Carlisle to the Speaker's chair. As the latter marched up the aisle between his double escort, an expectant hush succeeded the buzz of conversation, and Mr. Carlisle appeared, walking up like a prisoner between two constables, but as white as a sheet with his hardly controlled emotion. He began his speech in a deliberate voice; and when he came to that part of it in which he depreseated violent changes in the tariff, a ripple of applause went round which swelled into a burst and then into a roar.

We are informed, too, that it is hard to tell which is the more pleased—Congress to be back in Washington or Washington to have Congress back again. One vivacious correspondent tells us that even the pigeons that build in the east front of the Capitol chirp and coo more cheerfully, now that Congress has come back. Senator Edmunds, the new Senate President, is described as looking more saturnine than ever, and as the gloomiest man that ever sat in the President's chair. The other Senators are described as "very jolly," which rather upsets the popular impression that they are a wholly dignified body of men. But there is one phrase flying in the air which is decidedly alarming, and that is, that "only a rich man can be a Senator." There are seventy eight senators in all and seventeen of them are millionaires, while all but three or four have been elected within the last four years. Brains and money are said to be disproportioned. The lobby has become an abuse, too, that loudly demands reform. Certain persons are privileged to go upon the floor of the House at will, and there are from fifty to seventy five ex-members in Washington who advertise themselves as possessing this privilege. These persons have many advantages over others, and round sums have been paid to them for a single hour's service.

LORD TENNYSON.

As this is to be the title of the favorite English poet for the rest of his days, those who have learned to love his melodious verse will do their best to adapt it to their lips; but it goes without saying that the honor of a baronetcy in this case falls on the title rather than on the one who wears it. Tennyson is now seventy three years old and his fruitful muse may be relied on to give forth many more thoughtful, searching, and mellifluous lines before he goes hence and is seen no more. He will sit in the House of Lords in the company of a number of literary men of distinguished merit, and therefore will not feel lost in his surroundings. But it will be specially grateful to his American readers and admirers that one who has spoken in undying verse the noblest aspirations, the profoundest philosophy, and the sweetest and heartiest sentiments, should live to receive the free bestowal from the hand of his sovereign of an honor which becomes twice exalted by his unaffected acceptance of it. There is no earthly title too lofty for the true poet to wear, and modern times have no other with whom to compare their favorite Tennyson.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The time for the opening of the British Parliament is now rapidly approaching, and the nearer it comes the more pronounced become the differences which distinguish the opinions and conduct of the members of the Ministry. It has never been a consolidated ministry in any sense; indeed, it is fairly open to the inquiry whether it has been inspired with the sentiment of harmony. The universal impression now is, that the ministry will be obliged to yield to the growing popular demand for reform, and that it will be entirely out of relation with the Commons on any other basis. There are two special reforms which are conspicuous in the English mind at this time; one is that of the extension of household suffrage, which necessarily involves the question of redistribution of the seats in parliament; and the other is that of the total reorganization of the municipality of London. The latter is all but synonymous with the existence certainly with the vitality, of the United Kingdom.

Speeches recently made on the hustings by prominent parliamentarians fail to decide for the public mind which of these issues, or reforms, is to have precedence, whether on account of its intrinsic importance or the peculiarity of the situation. On this subject the cabinet is divided, Mr. Chamberlain represents and leads the radical section, while the Marquis of Hartington leads the conservative, or moderate, section. The former goes for electoral reform first, as is natural; the latter for municipal readjustments merely, which are equivalent to a postponement of a vital subject. As if what the population of London demands, greatest of the world's cities as it is, is worthy to be compared with the needs, requests, and demands of the entire people of the Kingdom. A reform of the basis of parliamentary constituencies means an extension of household suffrage from the boroughs to the counties; and in connection with it the Irish party demand that universal household suffrage shall be granted to Ireland as well as to England.

These, then, are the two important issues that promise to engross the time of the approaching parliament. And as outlined in the Cabinet, they may almost with certainty be depended on to break it up altogether on a division of the House. After all, it is but a question of urgency; are the population of London in a more necessitous condition in consequence of defective municipal government, or are the people of the Kingdom at large? It might be a matter of opinion merely; but opinion is very apt to take on the accretions of sympathy until it becomes feeling, or passion, merely. Mr. Gladstone, the recognized leader in parliament, as yet is disinclined to announce his preference as between the two wings of his Cabinet. He is apparently in a state of perplexity over the matter. And such an attitude on the part of the premier is not apt to inspire the confidence among members of parliament which is essential to his success in impressing a policy of any kind upon the nation.

Meeting of the State Grange.—The Massachusetts State Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry will assemble in its eleventh annual session in Massasoit Hall, Barre on Tuesday, December 18th, next week, at 11 A. M. All necessary hotel and railroad arrangements have been made to promote the convenience and comfort of those who will attend. The Session will occupy three days. Reports, addresses, and the transaction of regular routine business will occupy the time. There will be held three sessions on each of the first two days, and one on the third day. The schedule of proceedings exhibits a variety that will readily engage the attention of all members of the State Grange. The officers express the urgent desire that every member of the State Grange and a large representation of the membership of the subordinate Granges should attend this meeting; and they promise to spare no pains to make the Eleventh Annual Session the most interesting and profitable of any ever held by the State Grange. We do not doubt that with propitious weather the attendance will be all that is necessary to meet the fullest expectations of those having the coming meeting in charge.

Commissioner Loring's Report.—The report of Commissioner of Agriculture Loring shows that there were distributed during the year nearly 2,500,000 packages of seeds, of which more than 2,000,000 packages were furnished to congressmen. The experiments made by the department in extracting sorghum cane juice by diffusion instead of milling have been very successful and have resulted in an increase of from 25 to 30 per cent in yield. Speaking of forestry the commissioner says: "The belief seems warranted that there is no part of the country where, with proper care, such a growth of trees may not be secured as is desirable for the general welfare and for the comfort of the individual settler." In urging the importance of forest culture the commissioner says: "The total value of the forest products of the United States for the census year is estimated at $700,000. In other words, our forest products exceeded in value our crops of hay, rye, oats, barley, buckwheat, potatoes and tobacco taken together. They amount to ten times the value of the gold and silver, of which we make so much account and to more than three times the value of the precious minerals and the coal and other minerals combined." The expenses of the Department for the year amounted to $455,679.

Dinner to Chas. H. B. Breck.—Some forty of the friends of Mr. C. H. B. Breck of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society attended a dinner given to him Saturday afternoon, Dec., 8 inst., at the Quincy House in recognition of his fifteen years service at the head of the committee of arrangements. Mr. Breck retires from his position January 1, being succeeded by Mr. Edward L. Beard. At the dinner yesterday, the Hon. Francis B. Hayes, president of the society, occupied the chair, and very many prominent horticulturists, among them the Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, C. M. Hovey, John B. Moore, Walter Russell, W. J. Underwood and others, were present. The affair was entirely informal and was a most pleasant family gathering of horticulturists, all of whom united in testifying to Mr. Breck's long and faithful services to the society.

Mr. Boomer's Proposal.—Mr. O. F. Boomer, who last month addressed the readers of the *Ploughman* on "The Sorghum Industry," makes the proposition to all farmers who may desire to test the practicability of raising sorghum as a branch of regular agricultural industry, here in Massachusetts, that, if the managers of either the American Institute or the Charitable Mechanics Association will give the space and the steam-power necessary for it, he will put in the proper machinery to work up from 25 to 50 acres of the cane during the next season. He would be pleased to hear from our leading farmers on the subject, his sole object being, as he states, to test the matter after a practical method, and his preference being that a large number should engage in it, in order to aggregate as much experience in the culture of the cane as possible. No doubt this proposal will be received with the favor which it deserves at the hands of Massachusetts farmers, who are certainly interested in setting at rest an issue that may largely involve their general prosperity.

Massachusetts Horticultural Society.—At the meeting for discussion to be held Saturday, Dec. 15, William D. Philbrick will read a Prize Essay on "The Best Method of Constructing and Heating a Greenhouse for Amateur Use, taking economy and efficiency into account." The meeting will be at the Library Room, Horticultural Hall, Tremont Street, Boston, at 11 o'clock. The usual invitation is extended to all interested to attend.

Japanese Pottery.—At his recent lecture at Lowell Institute, Professor Morse treated the subject of Japanese potters and pottery, he said that the pottery most admired by the Japanese "is, first, old Corean Ware; second, ancient Japanese; and, third, Chinese porcelain. The tiny teapots which we suppose to be made for children, are really vessels for the use of adults. Each province is isolated from the rest in this manufacturing interest. The highest people in the land cultivate what are called "tea ceremonies." These were invented five or six hundred years ago, and consist in making and offering to guests powdered tea, accompanied with numerous minute ceremonies. If the tea bowl set before a guest is Corean, and he prefers Satsuma, he freely mentions it at the time of receiving his invitation, and his request is complied with. The modern Japanese pottery is very different from the old. It is no longer kept for family and carefully, in families, but by the wholesale for the foreign trade. The railroads and little steamers, too, have ruined the smaller pottery furnaces, where exquisite articles were made, by carrying to the smaller country places the wares of Tokio and other cities. Practically the art of making the finest pottery is dead with them. The Satsuma ware, with floral decorations, is only eighty or ninety years old.

The December (Christmas) *Magazine of American History* is one of the most attractive issues of this excellent periodical that has yet appeared. It contains four historical Essays on Christmas and its observance in various parts of early America and among different nationalities. John Eston Cooke contributes the leading article on "Christmas Time in old Virginia," superbly illustrated with portraits of the Pages, Carys, Pendletons and Nelsons of the old Dominion, with pictures of ancient churches and historic houses; Norman McF. Walker, of New Orleans, follows with a charmingly picturesque description of "The Holidays in Early Louisiana,"—among the Creoles; John Reade, F. R. S. C., of Montreal, tells us in a concise and pleasing essay of "Christmas-Tide in Canada,' among the earliest French settlers; and Mrs. Lamb, Editor of the Magazine, writes of the "Christmas Season in Dutch New York," Then comes an article by the learned and scholarly Horatio Hale, M. A. (author of the Iroquois Book of Rites, and other works), entitled "A Huron Historical Legend"; an exceptionally interesting sketch of "Colonel David Crockett, of Tenessee," by General Marcus J. Wright, of Washington; and a paper which will be widely studied by specialists and antiquarians—"Quivira, A Suggestion"—by Cyrus Thomas The third chapter of the *Private Intelligence* Papers of Sir Henry Clinton occupies the department of Original Documents, together with two unpublished letters of special interest. The other departments—Notes, Queries, Replies, Societies, and Book Notices—are, as usual, overflowing with good things. This Magazine is deservedly recognized in every part of the country as one of the best historical publications now offered to the public. Publication office, 39 Lafayette Place, New York City.

ALFRED TENNYSON

has contributed to the Christmas Number of the New York Ledger his only poem he has ever written for an American publication this year. The same issue has a bright sketch by Charles Reade, entitled "The Kindly Jest." As this number is a double number of twenty pages, it is full of entertaining stories, sketches of travel and adventure, poems, puzzles, with numerous illustrations. The Frontispiece of the Colored Cover is drawn by Harry Fenn. The publishers will give th e Christmas Number free to any one who subscribes now. They are printing 350,000 copies to supply the demand for it. It will be ready December 13th.

READ AND RUN.

— Theodore Tilton is in Paris, quietly engaged about his literary work.

— Another meeting of the emperors of Russia, Germany, and Austria is talked of.

— Pere Hyacinthe preached in Boston churches last Sunday, and intends to make an extended tour of the United States and Canada.

—Charles Sumner's former residence in Washington is now an annex of the Arlington Hotel.

— This is certainly beautiful Winter weather, or at least has been so far. But we must expect that the rough side will show itself in due time.

— The Egyptians have again been defeated in the Soudan.

— The Young Men's Christian Union of Boston held appropriate services, last Sunday evening, in memory of the late Rev. Mr. Cudworth.

— A stubborn fire occurred in the hold of the steamer Oranto, at South Boston, last Saturday night.

—Rev. J. O. Means died at his residence at Roxbury Highlands, on Saturday last.

— A gigantic system of fraud on the revenue has been unearthed by Secretary Folger, by which silks, aniline dyes, and carpet wools have been sent to this country almost duty free, through the roguery of European manufacturers and exporters.

— The expedition into the Florida Everglades has been safely completed.

— The domestic Prelate of the Pope has seceded from the church of Rome, and joined the Episcopal church.

— It is asserted that the City of New York has, within the past seven years, been defrauded of six millions of dollars.

— The fire on the corner of Federal and Congress streets in this city, on Saturday morning last, destroyed property of the value of nearly a quarter of a million dollars.

—The New Haven authorities have felt compelled to forbid the Salvation Army, so styled, holding meetings in the public squares and streets of the city.

— Four important measures relating to our shipping interests are to be introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Dingley of Maine.

— Beacon Hill Church in this city was dedicated last Sunday with appropriate exercises.

— The Earl of Craven, of England, has died at the age of forty-two.

—Spain has opened negotiations for reciprocal trade concessions between Cuba and the United States.

— A proposition to restrict Chinese immigration into British Columbia is under consideration by the authorities.

— The people of Manitoba openly threaten to appeal to the United States, if they cannot obtain redress of the Canadian government for their grievances.

— The Prince of Wales and the members of the executive committee of the late international fisheries exhibition in London have, through Minister Lowell, thanked the American Government for the manner in which it cooperated in that exhibition. The medals awarded to American exhibitors have been sent to the Smithsonian Institute for distribution.

— O'Donnell's wife went from Philadelphia to Liverpool to visit her condemned husband, who is to be executed next Monday for the murder of the informer James Carey.

—Numerously signed petitions from the distillers of the country are before Congress, to secure an extension of the bond period on distilled spirits for two years.

— The Annisquam cotton mill at Rockport, Mass., was totally destroyed by fire last Sunday morning, the loss amounting to $400,000. The insurance on the property was $300,000.

—Ex-Gov. Long remarks in his letter to President Baldwin of the Boston Young Men's Christian Union, on the death of Rev. Mr. Cudworth; "What a splendid example he has left, in the struggles of his youth for education and opportunity, in the consecration of his manhood, to the service of God and his fellow men, in his patriotic service in the war, in his unfailing charities and words of cheer and courage and instruction, and in the whole influence of his life."

— During the month of October, twenty five papers started in Dakota Territory. It was all in order to comply with the new law in relation to the declaration of intentions to preempt Government land.

— A man who was once known as Prince Charles Edmond de Bourbon has recently died in Holland in such extreme poverty that he was buried at the public expense in the pauper's cemetery. Fifty years ago he gave himself out to be the son of Louis XVI.

— It seems that the common expression is an erroneous one, that population in the West Indian Islands is stationary, or declining. There is shown to be an increase of sixteen per cent in the last decennial period.

— The system of travelling in compartment railway cars in Europe appears to be maintained notwithstanding the numerous crimes that have been committed in those cars.

— The historical church doors upon which Luther nailed his famous ninety five theses at Whittenburg in 1517 are now to be seen at the chief entrance to the church of St Bartholomew of Berlin. The original doors are known in Germany as the "Gates of the Reformation."

— Senator Blair has already renewed the joint resolution offered by him in the last Congress, for an amendment to the Constitution which shall prohibit the manufacture, sale or importation of distilled intoxicating liquors, except for medicinal, industrial, or scientific purposes.

— A peerage has been offered the poet Alfred Tennyson. It is understood that sometime ago he declined a baronetcy, but is not believed he will refuse a title from the Lord.

— The New York Sun says that the young people who play at marriage need not only a large infusion of wisdom, but a copious unction with the essential oil of birch. It further remarks that they ought to be soundly spanked, until some faint glimmering of reason and decency, and of respect for the most solemn of obligations, comes to them.

— The iron mills are closing on every side at a rapid rate.

— Diarneli never took to the theatre, but went only to the pantomime, where he greatly enjoyed the harlequin's tricks.

— Game of all kinds is said to be so plentiful in Belgium that it is necessary to destroy it, and stag hunting is now the favorite amusement.

— Mr. Francis H. Herrick says, in the Burlington Free Press, that the Bohemian Waxwing is sometimes found in the evergreen forests of Vermont. He saw two flocks in Burlington, in November and February of last year. The Waxwing utters only whispers, and seems to go about with some secret, like a billet, tucked under his wing.

— California is excluding the Chinese, yet busily inviting immigrants

— California humorists say kings are said to be brawny, full blooded men, to dress carelessly, and to be hail fellows well met with all their friends.

— It now appears to be certain that the scheme of electoral reform is to be made applicable to the whole United Kingdom.

— Radical ideas would appear to have recently triumphed in the Gladstone cabinet.

— The proposed meeting of anarchists in Paris ended in a collapse.

— The late Arthur Schollfield of New York left $50,000 to the Boston Public Library.

— The Queen's Hotel at Fredericton, N. B., was recently damaged by fire to the extent of ten thousand dollars.

— There is at present no divorce law in South Carolina. A bill embodying one was recently defeated in the Senate.

— The troubles with the Creek Indians have been peacefully settled.

— Secretary Chandler calls our cruisers, in his annual report to Congress, "our present decaying fleet."

— A Missouri man insists that tornadoes are simply electric storms, and demands insurance for his house on this ground.

— Boston was thoroughly stirred up over her annual city election on Tuesday.

— Matthew Arnold talked to the Amherst College students on "What the Staple of Modern Education ought to be."

— The free advertising of gifts for the season is an adequate announcement of the near approach of Christmas.

— Swedenborg made great discoveries in geology, anatomy, physiology, and astronomy, asserted the identity of lightning and electricity announced the existence of the seventh planet upon a purely mathematical basis, furnished proof of the stability of the solar system, and clearly conceived the distribution of matter in space. All these were long after accepted as true by scientists.

To Consumption Curable!

An annual death-rate of nearly 10,000 by Consumption in the United States gives, so far as the medical profession is concerned, a most emphatic and disheartening negative to the question. But under the new Vitalizing Treatment of Drs. Starkey and Palen, of 1109 Girard St., Philadelphia, quite an emphatic an affirmative can be declared. This treatment has inaugurated a new era in the healing art. We have abundant evidence of the truth of facts when we say that during the past thirteen years in thousands of cases the progress of Consumption has been arrested by its use, and hundreds of lives saved. In many instances where it seemed that the patient could not survive for more than a few days or a few weeks, the "cross have rallied, and there has been a slow, but sure, return to a better and more comfortable health. If you wish to know all about this remarkable treatment write to Drs. Starkey and Palen, and they will send you such documentary evidence as will enable you to judge of its real value.

THE "YANKEE."

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

In your last week's issue I notice the following item among the *"Read and Run,"* viz.:

"Jonathan Hastings, of Cambridge, Mass., is credited with originating the expressive word 'Yankee,' employing it to denote superior excellence. Thus he would speak of a 'Yankee good horse,' and 'Yankee good cider.'

In Drake's Indians of North America, published 60 years since, Anbury says "Yankee" is derived from a "Cherokee" shore, "Eankee," which means coward, "slave." This epithet of "Yankee" was bestowed upon the inhabitants of New England by the Virginians for not assisting them in a war with the Cherokees, and they have always been held in derision by it. Others say the Indians trying to say English could get no more than *"Yungees,"* hence "Yankee."

H. K. W. H.

☞ *Four Beautiful New Landscapes* (reproduced in heliotype from the paintings by Marak; in two sizes, 19x24 and 22x28, price 50cts., and $1.00 each, respectively) will surely win favor with all who have seen and admired this artist's pleasing and highly popular pictures of the Seasons and the four divisions of the day. The subjects of these works may be thus described:—"Among the Birches"; sunlight falling between the silvery gray trunks of the trees and brightening the green leaves. In the tangled underwood are a deer and stag, and a bird flutters above.—"Cedars by moonlight"; some tall cedars growing out of rifted rocks with a sickle moon showing through their naked and twisted branches. A fox slinks along below.—"The Giant Oak";—a monarch of the wood, whose towering arms spread far apart, with a number of wild boars reeding beneath. It is autumn and the leaves are falling.—"The Pine Forest;"—a rockstrewn forest of pines, with a couple of deer feeding in a glade. A mountain rears its side on the right. The painter, Julius Marak, was born in Bohemia in 1835 and studied at Munich and Prague. (Sent postpaid and carefully wrapped, on receipt of price by the publishers, James R. Osgood & Co., Boston. A 68 page catalogue describing over 400 heliotypes sent free on application.)

THE CROP OUTLOOK.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11, 1883.—The season for cotton picking since the occurrence of frosts has been quite favorable. The indications of the December returns to the department of Agriculture favor a reduction of about 12 per cent from the crop of last year. This report points to a crop of about 6,000,000 bales. It is possible that the cotton movement of the year may pass that limit. The returns of corn production are more contradictory than those of October and November, from the injury to soft corn by warm, moist weather. North of the 40th parellel the corn has been cribbed in time to escape injury from many causes. The proportion of unmerchantable corn is therefore large. The final estimate of quantity produced will fall a few millions short of the estimates of previous return, or 23 bushels per acre. This estimate relates only to quantity, and makes no discount for inferior quality, which seriously increases the practical shortage. The loss from insects, disease, or injury to soft corn from mild and wet weather, are treated as after harvest considerations. An investigation will be made as to the extent of such injury. The wheat aggregates slightly exceeds 400,000,000 bushels. The oats crop is about four per cent larger than that of last year, and exceeds 500,000,000 bushels. The yield of rye and barley is a little less than in 1882, and buckwheat is reduced more than one third.

"A LIFE ON THE OCEAN WAVE."

It was about sixty years ago that the Atlantic Ocean was first crossed by a steam vessel. This vessel was the Savannah, of 300 ton burthen. She took twenty six days to make the passage to Liverpool. This was not sufficiently encouraging to warrant the creation of an ocean steam fleet. Sailing vessels could do almost as well, at less expense, and with no danger of blowing up. In those days even commercial and scientific people were opposed to change. Such an eminent scientist as Dr. Dionysius Lardner declared steam for ocean navigation to be impracticable. So it was not until ten years had elapsed that steamers were tried with any considerable success. Then it was in British waters. It led to further trials and successes; and in 1838 the Sirius and the Great Western triumphantly crossed the ocean. It was now established that ocean steamers could be made both practicable and profitable. In 1840 the famous "Britannia" made her first passage, and regular traffic began, by the aid of large subsidies from the British Government. At first the steamers crossed every three or four weeks. After a while they multiplied so as to make semi-monthly trips. Now the Pacific Ocean as well as the Atlantic, is alive with them. It is almost as common a thing to cross the ocean as to take a journey by rail. The tourist who has plenty of money and a year to spare, can go around the world with almost as great comfort as he could enjoy in staying at home.

Forty years ago there began to go around the world one of the most beneficent agents for the alleviation of human misery that has ever been known. It started in a humble way; more so, indeed, than did the first ocean steamer. It was put subsidies from the governments, and without the endorsement of the learned or scientific men of the day, it went entirely on its own merits, and worked its way because it helped suffering humanity. It had its origin in the home of a man who was an invalid and a cripple. He had found in his great grandfather's collection of the doctors failed to give him the relief he needed. So he set to work studying out his own case, and devising something to kill the pain with had almost killed him. He achieved a wonderful success.

"This thing was not done in a corner." The beneficent operation of such a healing agency could not be kept a secret. Friend told friend, neighbor told neighbor. The fame of Perry Davis's Pain Killer was noised abroad. For some time Mr. Davis supplied the demand from the little laboratory in his own home at Providence. But this was no longer possible when thousands and thousands of bottles of Pain Killer were daily called for. A large factory was established, which has since been enlarged many times owing to the greatly and constantly increasing demand for Pain Killer. It was not alone in our own land that the happy effects of Pain Killer were made known. Such healing influence was too valuable to be confined to one country or one continent. There is now not a country in the civilized world where Perry Davis's Pain Killer is not known and used.

— President Porter of Yale College tells the students that he finds, on careful investigation that every case of typhoid fever which had occurred at the College recently, was contracted elsewhere; that the sewerage of the College was as perfect as possible; and that most of the sickness was of a malarious, and not of a typhoid character.

WHY THE "ROYAL" IS THE BEST.

The improved method by which it has been made impossible to produce pure cream of tartar, has had an important bearing upon the manufacture of baking powder. By the process heretofore generally employed, it has been found impossible to remove all impurities, more particularly the tartrate of lime, which remained to such an extent as to greatly impair the quality of the cream of tartar, and to interfere seriously with the strength and wholesomeness of the baking powders into which it enter d.

In the new process, which is owned by the Royal Baking Powder Company of New York, and exclusively employed in its extensive tartar works, the important crude product is so treated as to remove all vestige of tartrate of lime or other impurities, giving a product before unknown—a chemically pure cream of tartar.

By the employment of these superior facilities, the Royal Baking Powder Company has made the Royal Baking Powder, as the chemists all certify, of the greatest possible degree of strength, "absolutely pure" and wholesome, and with an always uniform leavening power. It is for these reasons that the "Royal" never fails to produce bread, biscuit, cakes, etc., that are light, sweet, digestible, and wholesome; the eating of which is never followed by indigestion, or any of those physical discomforts attendant upon the unskilful making of improperly prepared food. In rendering possible the production of a baking powder possessed of these qualifications, the improved method of refining cream of tartar becomes at once a matter of material importance to the culinary world.

— The wheat market at Chicago holds very firm and steady, and the prospect is that this year's crop, say about 420 million bushels, will be large enough to supply the home demand and amply satisfy the demand for foreign export.

WONDERFUL SALES OF BEATTY'S ORGANS.

The sale of Beatty's organs is unprecedented. During the month of November, 1882, 980 were shipped. During the month of November, 1883, 1,600, and still we are reliably informed that Mayor Beatty can scarcely supply the demand for his magnificent organs. Did you see his grand Holiday offer that appeared in your last week's issue? You should read it carefully and order without delay. It is a decided bargain.

— The whole number of Democrats in the present House of Representatives is 192, of which the Northern States elected 96, or just one half.

☞ Dr. R. V. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" cures every kind of humor, from the common pimple or eruption to the worst scrofula. Four to six bottles cure salt-rheum or tetter. One to five bottles cure the worst kind of pimples on the face. Two to four bottles clear the system of boils, carbuncles, and sores. Five to eight bottles cure corrupt or running ulcers and the worst scrofula. By druggists, and in half-dozen and dozen lots at great discount.

— It was a wise friend of Isaak Walton who used to remind him that "what is everybody's business is nobody's business."

VEGETINE.—The great success of the VEGETINE as a cleanser and purifier of the blood is shown beyond a doubt by the great numbers who have taken it, and received immediate relief, with such remarkable cures.

STATE OF THE MARKETS.

There are some indications of weakness in the butter market, owing to the light trade, and while holders are not disposed to announce any material decline, they are willing to make concessions in order to effect sales. This refers more particularly to medium quality, of which the bulk of the stock is composed. The fancy makes of fresh Western creamery are still selling as they arrive at 38 to 42 cents per pound, but the quantity of this kind coming forward is very small and the business is mostly of a jobbing character. For round lots of 50 or 100 tubs, 36 cents is all that can be depended upon for consignments of Western creamery. Fine fall Northern creamery is selling moderately at 34 to 35 cents, but summer made is not moving at over 28 cents, and not much called for at that. Strictly fine fall dairy is firm at 28 to 30 cents and upward, but very little of that kind is now to be found; and winter made dairy is dull at 20 to 25 cents. Most of the late made dairy is undesirable, and buyers do not want it except at a very low price. In fact, buyers are indifferent about all kinds except the high toned fancy stock and the very cheapest grades. Intermediate stock is neglected, and the indications are that it will move slowly until after the turn of the year. The total stock of butter here is not large enough to cause any uneasiness, but as usual on a slow market there are some holders anxious to realize.

Cheese.

No particularly new features have been developed in the cheese market. The home trade has been quite moderate and Liverpool advices do not indicate any change in prices since last week. Holders of fine and fancy stock still insist on getting 13 cents per pound, but only small lots can be sold at that price. Most of the large sales have been at from 12 to 12¾ cents per pound, and pretty good stock can be bought within that range. Holders of cheese are not so sanguine of a boom in their favor as they were a short time ago, and still have in mind the situation to cause any uneasiness. Exports are running larger than last year and the stock in the country is believed to be pretty well reduced. The advance in pork and lard will, it is believed, cause a larger consumption of cheese in England and cause a better demand later in the season.

Country Markets.

Elgin, Ill., Dec. 10—Cheese 7¾ to 8 cents. Butter 37 to 38 cents, with sales of 12,000 pounds

St. Albans, Vt., Dec. 11—Butter market firm for fine at 28 to 32 cents; winter made dull at 20 to 25 cents. Shipments about 400 tubs.

The Elgin prices are 2 to 3 cents a pound lower than last week, and the St. Albans prices are about 2 cents higher.

Beans.

There continues to be an unsettled market for beans, owing to liberal receipts, and prices are in favor of buyers. For large lots of the best medium $2.75 per bushel is a full price, and some good qualities range lower. Choice hand picked pea are slow at $2.90 to $2.95 per bushel, with a little higher range for jobbing lots. In the present state of the market it is difficult to give a reliable selling price for large lots.

Potatoes.

Liberal receipts of potatoes from all sections keep prices low, and there is no prospect of any change at present. Some fancy stock runs up to 52 to 55 cents per bushel, but a large portion are selling at 50 cents, with 45 cents for some not of the best quality.

Poultry.

There has been a fair trade in choice turkeys and chickens, which command 18 to 20 cents per pound, but the bulk of the stock is composed of light and prices take a low range. The tendency of the market is to easier rates all round, and with large receipts from the West before Christmas, shippers may count on lower prices.

Eggs.

The egg trade, as usual at this season, is light and there is a wide range in prices. Fresh and Eastern are firm at 32 cents, and some fancy lots range higher but most of the sales range from 25 to 30 cents per dozen.

Apples.

There has been a light movement in apples and prices are nearly nominal. Some fancy varieties are worth $3.50 per barrel, but it is not safe to count on getting more than $3 to $3.25 per barrel for the best Baldwins. Exports continue on a small scale.

Hay and Straw.

The hay trade is not satisfactory. Occasional extra grades command $17 per ton, but for the bulk of the receipts $13 to $16 per ton is as much as can be realized. Receipts are liberal, and all but the best qualities sell slowly. Rye straw is selling moderately at $14 to $14,50 per ton.—[Journal.

☞ A healthy body is indispensable to a vigorous mind. A bilious and dyspeptic man whose blood drags sluggishly in his veins, can neither think clearly nor act wisely. Ayer's Pills will stir up the liver, excite the stomach and bowels to activity, open the pores of the system, renovate the blood, and restore a healthy tenement for the mind.

— At a certain hotel in New York, there were recently seventy-one applications for the job of putting in a single load of coal, one day last week.

☞ Ladies of all ages who suffer from loss of appetite; from imperfect digestion, low spirits and nervous debility may have life and health restored indefinitely at moderate cost by the use of Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham's remedies for all complaints incident to the female constitution. We have not only a living faith in M